

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Applicant has filed a terminal disclaimer. Favorable reconsideration of this application, consequently, is earnestly solicited in view of the following remarks. Applicant appreciates examiner's note that claims 12-14 contain allowable subject matter and that claim 19 is allowable.

Claims 1 and 9-11 were rejected for obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2,5, and 15-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,309,027

Claims 2-3 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2,5 and 15-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,309,027 in view of Rogers.

Claim 4 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2, 5, and 15-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,309,027.

Claims 5-8 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2, 5, and 15-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,309,027 in view of Corbusier.

Claims 15-18 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-2, 5, and 15-16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,309,027.

MPEP 804.02(II) states that "a rejection based on a non-statutory type of double patenting can be avoided by filing a terminal disclaimer in the application or proceeding

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Reply to Office Action of 03/28/2003

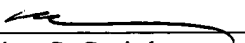
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in which the rejection is made". Applicant has filed a terminal disclaimer for U.S. Patent No. 6,309,027 and these rejections are therefore moot.

Claims 12-14 were rejected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The terminal disclaimer, however, has resolved the rejection of the base claim, and the rejections of claims 12-14 are now moot.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully urged that claims 1-18 be allowed. This action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to contact the attorney at the below listed number.

Respectfully Submitted


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